[23rd February 1955

Pepper gardens

* 854 *Q.*—SRI K. MADHAVAN NAMBIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have any proposal to bring the pepper gardens under the operational jurisdiction of the Land Mortgage Banks; and

(*b*) if so, the stage at which the matter now stands?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) No, Sir.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

SRI K. MADHAVAN NAMBIAR :—" As there are large areas under pepper cultivation in Malabar and Kasargod taluk of South Kanara district, will the Government consider bringing them under the jurisdiction of the Land Mortgage Bank?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, the yield of pepper is uncertain. Moreover, pepper crop is liable to be destroyed by forest fires and it is also liable to be attacked by a disease known as wilt. I understand that the president of the Pepper Cultivators' Association will be satisfied with getting medium and short term loans for this purpose. They can as well join the Co-operative Credit Societies in the areas for getting financial help."

Lower Elementary Grade teachers

* 855 *Q.*—SRI K. KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Lower Elementary trained teachers working in aided schools are not paid the increased pay of three rupees per mensem, sanctioned by the Government this year; and

(*b*) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) It is the policy of the Government to eliminate Lower Elementary Grade teachers."

SRI K. KUNHI MUHAMED SHAFEE :— " Sir considering the fact that the present number of such teachers is very few and the duration of their remaining period of service also is very short, will the Government consider to extend these concessions to these teachers also? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Government considered this question and have come to the decision that it is not necessary."